



Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chairwoman Slaughter Urges Speaker Pelosi To Bring Forth Bill To Approve Great Lakes Compact

Washington, DC - Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chair of the House Committee on Rules and Co-Chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, today urged Speaker Nancy Pelosi to bring critical legislation to approve the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact* to the House floor for a vote. The full text of Chairwoman Slaughter's letter to Speaker Pelosi is below:

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

I urge you to bring to the House floor for consideration legislation to ratify the *Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Water Resources Compact*. As a co-chair of the Great Lakes Congressional Task Force, I believe there is no legislation that could do more to protect the Great Lakes.

The eight Great Lakes States all recently ratified the *Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact*, which bans new and increased diversions of water outside the Great Lakes Basin with only limited, highly regulated exceptions. The Compact calls on the signatory states to develop and implement water conservation programs that, collectively, will ensure improvement of the waters and water dependent natural resources; will protect the integrity of the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem; and, specifically, will retain and restore the quantity of surface water and groundwater in the Basin.

For the Compact to have full force in law, Congress must pass, and the President must sign, legislation approving the agreement. The Senate has already passed S.J.Res. 45, and the House Judiciary Committee reported out H.R. 6577, both pieces of legislation which ratify the Compact.

Accordingly, I urge you to bring S.J.Res. 45 or H.R. 6577 to the House floor for a vote during the month of September. This legislation will go a long way to protect and preserve our Great Lakes for future generations. The Great Lakes are a national treasure, and I simply cannot

think of a more important resource that touches the lives of millions of Americans every day.

Sincerely,

Louise M. Slaughter

Member of Congress

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